

What is claimed is:

5            1. An apparatus for using compressed codes for  
information broadcast recording that comprises: means for  
entering compressed codes each having at least one digit and  
each representative of, and compressed in length from, the  
10 combination of a proper subset of the set of channel, date,  
time-of-day and length commands for an information broadcast;  
and means for decoding a compressed code having at least one  
digit into a proper subset of the set of channel, date, time-  
of-day and length commands;

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          2. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1  
wherein each compressed code: has a length less than the  
length of the concatenation of said incorporated proper subset  
20 of the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands;  
and

          3. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1  
wherein each compressed code: comprises one or more  
25 alphanumeric characters.

          4. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1  
wherein: said means for decoding expands each of said  
30 compressed codes into an individual, proper subset of the set  
of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands for an  
individual information broadcast.

35            5. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1  
wherein said means for entering a compressed code comprises:

means for remote control that comprises the means for entering  
and a signal transmit means for communicating said compressed  
5        code to said means for decoding.

6. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1  
wherein said means for entering a compressed code comprises a  
10        keyboard.

7. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 5  
further comprising: means for recording coupled to said means  
for decoding.

8. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 7  
further comprising: a clock for providing an output as a  
function of time; and said means for decoding performing the  
20        decoding as a function of said clock output.

9. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 8  
wherein said means for recording comprises: said clock; means  
for selecting a channel to record in response to said decoded  
25        channel commands; means for turning said means for recording  
on in response to comparison of said decoded time-of-day  
commands with said clock output; and means for turning said  
means for recording off in response to comparison of the  
30        record on time with said decoded length commands.

10. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1  
further comprising: means for recording; means for remote  
control, wherein the means for remote control comprises the  
35        means for entering said compressed codes and the means for

decoding said compressed codes; and a clock for providing an  
output as a function of time coupled to said means for  
5        decoding.

11. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 10  
wherein: said means for decoding performs the decoding as a  
10        function of said clock output.

12. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 11  
further comprising: means for selecting a channel to record in  
response to said decoded channel commands; means for turning  
15        said means for recording on in response to comparison of said  
decoded time-of-day commands with said clock output; and means  
for turning said means for recording off in response to  
comparison of the record on time with said decoded length  
20        commands.

13. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 12  
wherein said means for remote control comprises: signal  
transmit means for transmitting commands to said means for  
25        recording; means for selecting a channel to record in response  
to said decoded channel commands; means for turning said means  
for recording on in response to comparison of said decoded  
time-of-day commands with said clock output; and means for  
30        turning said means for recording off in response to comparison  
of the record on time with said decoded length commands.

14. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 12  
further comprising: means for transmitting a proper subset of  
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the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands from said means for remote control to said means for recording.

5            15. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 14 wherein said means for recording comprises: a clock for providing an output as a function of time; means for selecting  
10 a channel to record in response to said decoded channel commands; means for turning said means for recording on in response to comparison of said decoded time-of-day commands with said clock output; and means for turning said means for  
15 recording off in response to comparison of the record on time with said decoded length commands.

16. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1 further comprising: means for remote control, wherein the  
20 means for remote control comprises the means for entering said compressed codes and the means for decoding said compressed codes.

25 17. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 16 wherein: said means for remote control comprises a universal remote control capable of learning protocols of a different remote controller with which said means for universal remote control interfaces.

30 18. A method for using compressed codes for information broadcast recording that comprises: receiving compressed codes, each having at least one digit and each representative  
35 of, and compressed in length from, the combination of a proper subset of the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length

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          commands for an information broadcast; and decoding a  
compressed code having at least one digit into a proper subset  
5       of the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands;

          19. The method for using compressed codes of claim 18  
further comprises: decoding each of said compressed codes into  
a individual, proper subset of the set of channel, date, time-  
10       of-day and length commands for an individual information  
broadcast.

          20. The method for using compressed codes of claim 18  
15       further comprises: receiving a compressed code in a remote  
control and transmitting said compressed code to said means  
for decoding using said remote control.

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